

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 266 – HB 720

March 11, 2013

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Creates a presumption that an infectious disease acquired by an emergency rescue worker was acquired in the line of duty. Expands the definition of “infectious disease” to include human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and hepatitis C virus. Expands, from seven to sixty days, the length of time within which an emergency rescue worker is required to report a known or suspected occupational exposure. Worker’s compensation benefits will cover qualifying emergency rescue workers following termination of service for a period of three months for each full year of service, not to exceed sixty months.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$100,000*

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004230): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Creates a presumption that an infectious disease acquired by an emergency rescue worker was acquired in the line of duty. Expands the definition of “infectious disease” to include human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and hepatitis C virus.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- All costs resulting from this bill as amended and worker’s compensation claims will be paid by local governments as employers to their respective emergency rescue workers who have been infected.
- Due to multiple unknown factors, including but not limited to, how many emergency rescue workers will contract an infectious disease, how many years of accrued service they have at the time of contraction, and the timing of contraction, a precise fiscal

impact cannot be determined. However, it is reasonably estimated there will be a mandatory increase in local government expenditures exceeding \$100,000.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/jrh